

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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Salt Lake City, Utah.

SALT LAKE CITY, - JAN. 3, 1902.

PAVING IMPROVEMENTS.

The announcement that South Temple street will be paved with asphalt from State to Third West street is welcome news. It is one of the principal thoroughfares of the city. Leading eastward from the U. P. depot, it is the avenue for a great deal of traffic, and many people coming here from East and West, obtain their first impressions of Salt Lake City on that part intended to be paved of what is popularly known as Brigham street. Its frontage is 6,900 feet. At the rate of \$14 per foot, it will cost the taxpayers about \$96,600 and the city \$20,000 on the intersections.

The petition from the abutting property-owners which was presented to the City Council, contained the names of persons representing at least two-thirds of the taxpayers, as the law requires, and the first name on the list was that of Joseph F. Smith, Trustee-in-trust for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which is the principal property-owner along the route. The City Recorder having been authorized to advertise the intention of the city to pave that part of South Temple street described, we may confidently look for the commencement of the work as soon as weather permits.

The great width of the streets of this city makes the cost of paving come high. But the advantages obtained are equal at least to the cost, and not only the property owners who it extends are benefited, but it is of great advantage to the general public. We hope to see other important streets delivered from the mud in winter and the dust in summer, which are in a great degree abolished by laying asphaltum pavement. The expense is too great to extend such pavement throughout this broad city, but the principal streets should be thus improved as fast as practicable and as the property owners can be induced to meet the outlay.

THE COMMERCIAL CLUB.

The organization of a Commercial club in this city, suggested by a business man and endorsed editorially in this paper, seems to meet with favor among the principal business men of Salt Lake. It will receive the support of the Governor, the Mayor and the superintendents and managers of the most prominent enterprises, as well as of the heads of firms, bankers, merchants, brokers, etc. The movement will soon be started, and we believe will commence under better auspices than those of anything of the kind that has heretofore been projected.

The experiences of the past will doubtless be of benefit in the future. The rocks on which the vessels of commercial associations have split in the past will be carefully avoided in time to come, and the mistakes that have occurred will not be repeated. This city is now in a better financial condition than ever before to lay the foundation for a solid institution of this character. There should be a combination of old and experienced financiers and commercial traders, with young and vigorous and pushing men who will not drop into old ruts and ignore the most advanced methods. Extremes either way should be avoided. The young adventurous blood should be tempered by that conservative element which is developed by age and experience.

In a city of the population, wealth and business interests of Salt Lake, a center of trade and commerce, the lack of such an organization is a blank that is conspicuous when viewed by the bright and strong men of other places, and that ought to be filled by a live and vigorous association. All the business elements of this city should combine for mutual advantage and to enhance commercial interests generally. We believe the movement proposed will materialize and the Commercial club become a permanent and profitable Salt Lake institution.

FAIR GROUNDS AND BUILDING.

The public will be pleased to learn that the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society has reached a definite conclusion on the dispute about the site for the Fair grounds and building. The spot selected is the old Agricultural Park. The directors of the association, after wrestling with the subject for a long time, and considering the offers made by different parties to sell grounds suitable for the purpose, settled upon the place herein designated.

One of the potent reasons for this determination is the legal opinion of the State attorney-general, that under the law the site must be within the limits of Salt Lake municipality. The place is suitable for the purpose, and we believe the great majority of the public will be gratified, that it is to be utilized for the object which was in view as to those grounds originally.

Agricultural Park may now be considered the future permanent home of the State Fair. This will please the inhabitants of the Tenth Ward who have for a long time objected to the occupation of the square, which they desire for a pleasure park, by the high fence and sheds and other obstructions there, which will now be disposed of and soon be removed.

The directors were practically unanimous in the settlement of this dispute, and in the determination to erect a substantial and modern structure for the fair building. They have the sum of \$30,000 in hand for the beginning of this work. In order to proceed on the best lines for the erection of this building, President Nelson A. Empey and Vice President John White will take a trip to the East, and inspect the various buildings devoted to similar purposes, so that the latest features found to be suitable may be adopted in the Salt Lake structure.

Not to be behind in the work of the association for the coming season, Secretary S. W. Sears has been authorized to commence the work of preparing the premium lists for next fall's prizes, the sum of \$5,000 being appropriated for that purpose. Supervisors of the various departments have also been appointed, each of whom is specially adapted for the particular work assigned, and the prospects altogether of the association for the year 1902 are very bright and encouraging.

THE POST OFFICE.

Some interesting figures will be found on another page of this issue of the "News," which show the growth of business in the Salt Lake postoffice, and speak loudly of the efficiency of the attaches of that establishment. Ex-Governor Thomas has raised the status of that office in a remarkable degree. He has been aided by a diligent corps of assistants and carriers, and the rapid advancement of the establishment is a matter of pride to the people of this city. Postmaster Thomas stands well with the department at Washington, and having been renominated by the President will doubtless soon be confirmed by the Senate. We believe the office here is conducted in a manner every way satisfactory to the government, and we can say that it certainly meets with the cordial approbation of the Salt Lake public.

THE BLESSED RAINS.

The splendid rain which fell on Thursday was a pretty general down-pour. It is of great benefit wherever it reached. It is true that because of the frozen surface of the earth in these parts, some of it was carried away; but in other places, particularly in the southern part of the State, though somewhat lighter than elsewhere it soaked into the earth and was of much value to agriculturalists and stockmen. While it rained in the valleys it snowed up in the mountains, and added much to the stores laid away in the hollows and ravines needed for irrigation in the coming summer. We are not yet secure in this respect, but will need more snow deposits to provide for the needs of the year. However, there is time yet, notwithstanding the mildness of the present weather, for snowfalls in the heights which frosts will congeal and preserve for later use. We are thankful for the little we are sure of, and humbly but earnestly hope for more. Solid snow, packed in the highest banking places of the mountains, is wealth laid up for the lands in the valleys below. Every downfall during this month is precious beyond price. Welcome to the rain in the valleys and the snows in the hills!

M. WU'S DIPLOMACY.

That the Chinese minister to this country is a keen diplomat is again evident from the fact that he has sent a letter to Secretary Hay, asking that a commission be appointed to investigate the workings of the Chinese exclusion law. If this suggestion be acted upon, delay will be gained. Secretary Hay has forwarded the letter to the chairman of the House committee on foreign affairs, claiming that the matter belongs to Congress and not to the state department.

M. Wu, it seems, has discovered a clause in the treaty of 1859 between this country and his, stipulating that if the laws of Congress are found to work a hardship upon the subjects of China, the Chinese minister may bring the matter to the notice of the secretary of state, who will consider the subject with him, "to the end that mutual and unqualified benefit may result."

He claims that the exclusion law has worked a hardship upon his countrymen, and he claims that, under the agreement entered into, it is the duty of Congress to have that matter thoroughly investigated, before re-enacting the exclusion law. His idea is that a commission be appointed to visit the localities in this country where Chinese mostly aggregate, as well as the Hawaiian and Philippine islands, and by personal observation find out just how the law operates. M. Wu is confident, he says, that the report of such a commission would satisfy Congress that the present law is a violation of justice and humanity; and that it works an injury to the interests of both countries.

Such an investigation would result in the postponement of further legislation on the subject for some time. Personal observations by a commission, not only in the United States proper but also in the islands of the sea, could not be made in a hurry. In the meantime the Geary act would expire, letting the bars down for the time being, unless special provisions were made, to be in force during the investigation. It is evidently such a step of proceeding, if the term be permitted, the Chinese diplomat hopes to bring about. If he has read public opinion correctly, he cannot hope for the abrogation of the act which he deems offensive. It was enacted as a concession to a very widespread sentiment, and this has not changed materially, on that subject. Still Congress cannot very well ignore entirely the representations of the Chinese representative. Treaty agreements must be kept. If he interprets the particular clause he refers to correctly, he is entitled to a hearing.

NEW MOVE AGAINST TURKEY.

A recent dispatch from Constantinople states that assassination, pillaging, and other outrages are now so common in Macedonia that the embassies of the powers, represented in the Turkish capital, have been applied to, by the consuls, to put a stop to the crimes. That such is the fact has long been known from the reports sent out, but as the

condition complained of appears to be chronic, only passing attention has been paid to the reports.

But now something out of the common seems to be on the program. The Russian ambassador is said to have notified the Turkish authorities that the conditions in Armenia and Macedonia are regarded in Europe as a disgrace to the Ottoman government and a menace to peace. And this rebuke was followed, it is said, by notes by all the ambassadors dealing with the attitude of the Porte on the question of mining regulations.

France and Russia are reported to be the leaders in this movement, the object of which is said to be to reach a basis of "an understanding for making representations to the Porte and for eventually taking action in order to oblige the sultan not only to carry out the clauses of the treaty of Berlin relating to both Macedonia and Armenia, but to give guarantees for the execution of these and further reforms and for the settlement of the numerous questions pending."

According to this, the day of reckoning seems to be drawing near. The powers may have hesitated to act without a thorough understanding with one another, since no statesmanship could possibly foresee what such action would lead to. But with a common agreement between the powers, there is no doubt that the Turkish question could be solved without incurring the risk of a general upheaval.

It is high time for the civilized world to take a hand in the affairs of a government that has proved its impotency. Not only is the criminal element overrunning many parts of the country that should be protected, but the government itself is one of terror. Prominent Turks are daily deprived of their liberty. Secret arrests and disappearances are said to be the order of the day. The army is unpaid, and the soldiers, consequently, have to be provided for in some other way, peculiar to Turkey. The ruler is not willing, or perhaps is powerless, to institute reforms. Disaffection is spreading. Such are the conditions, if reports are true. They cannot continue for ever. Some day the powers must interfere.

The past year has witnessed many important events, and the reported collision between the powers, for the purpose of upholding the Berlin treaty must be classed as one of them.

ORIGIN OF THE INDIANS.

According to the San Francisco Chronicle, the identity of the Navajo tribe of Indians and the Tlinch Indians of Alaska has now been established. The conclusion is based upon correspondence in pronunciation and meaning of many words used by the two tribes and also by the Navajo tradition, handed down from one generation to another, that the tribe at one time inhabited a very cold country. The Zuni Indians of New Mexico are thought to be the descendants of the ancient Aztecs, they being as different from other North American tribes, as these are from the Caucasians, taking their customs, mode of living and physical characteristics into consideration.

The writer in the Chronicle asserts that the Redmen of America, particularly those dwelling on the Pacific coast, indisputably are of Asiatic origin. The nearer, he says, we approach the point of contact between the two continents of North America and Asia the stronger is the resemblance in physiognomy, physique and customs of the two peoples, while the differentiation is easily accounted for by the influences of environment through the centuries. Environment has made the red man of the prairies a tent-dweller and a nomad, because he has depended from time immemorial upon the chase for his subsistence. For the same reasons he is more highly developed physically than his brother near the seaboard, who has been forced by environment to rely upon the fish of the sea and the rivers and the fruits of the forest for his subsistence.

The writer points out that Mexico, Central and South America contain antiquities which are highly suggestive of Egyptian origin. He says:

"They embrace pyramids, sphinxes and hieroglyphics which correspond closely to those of the ancient Egyptians; that a comparison of their relationship is irrefragable. Of course, the assumption of the Egyptian origin of the earlier inhabitants of the two Americas meets with many difficulties, owing to the wide expanse of ocean which separates the Old World from the New, and the absence of evidence that the ancient inhabitants of the Nile valley were an adventurous race. It is helped out, however, by the tradition concerning the lost continent of Atlantis, which is supposed to have been densely populated and which, prior to the great cataclysm which submerged it in the bed of the Atlantic ocean, joined the two Americas to the continent of Africa. In the light of this tradition, there is little difficulty to account for the origin of the builders of the prehistoric pyramids and statues and the hieroglyphic writings on stone found on these western continents. If the existence of the continent of Atlantis at some time in the remote past is conceded, the western migration of the ancient Egyptian race is easily accounted for."

The origin of the American Indians, though a constant subject of investigation, remains a profound mystery to ethnologists. But it is noticeable that the clues they have obtained, all point to the fact that there has, at some time in the dim past, been communication between the western and eastern hemispheres. This fact established, it should not be difficult to accept the historical authenticity of the Book of Mormon.

If the mayor has, in the power of removal, a giant's strength, he should not use it as a giant.

Logan and Ogden sugar factories will enlarge their plants. Utah's sweet tooth grows on that on which it feeds.

A Denver barber has succeeded in doing what no brave of the plains was ever able to do—taking off a lock of Buffalo Bill's hair.

William C. Whitney paid fifty thousand dollars for a Nasterium. This beats anything Joseph Chamberlain ever paid for an orchid.

A New York clergyman made ten big resolutions on New Year's day. If he

intends to keep them he will have to put them in cold storage.

"What this world needs is fewer children," remarked Miss Susan B. Anthony the other day. In this regard the lady has seen her duty and done it.

Mrs. Mattie Inham of Wichita, Kas., has sued Alonzo Lemon for breach of promise in the sum of six thousand dollars. It is very evident that the lady is a Lemon squeezer.

"Practice the golden rule and remember that dark clouds have their silver lining," was the sentiment uttered by Mr. Richard Croker on New Year. It is quite Marcus Aurelius and shows that a political boss may develop into a philosopher.

George S. Morrison, a member of the Isthmian canal commission, who is considered one of the most expert engineers in the world, computes that it may even require \$1,000,000,000 to build the canal along the Nicaragua route. In the language of Rip Van Winkle we are "better mid out it," at that price.

Governor Hurt, of Porto Rico, is desirous that a congressional committee be sent to the island to consider the matter of realty titles. It would be a very nice junketing trip but would scarcely amount to anything more. Land titles there are governed by the civil law and with that American lawyers, even the best, have little or no acquaintance, save those of Louisiana.

If the stories of vandalism committed on the premises of Peter Mortenson are true, there is a chance for the officers of the law to do some work. Mortenson is in custody but his property is as much entitled to the protection of the law as that of the first citizen of the state. It behooves his neighbors, for the sake of the neighborhood's good name, to see to it that this man's home and surroundings are not given over to rapine and plunder.

As everybody knows, professors are only less common than colonels, but it remained for a Baltimore negro to discover a unique way to make a "professor." She named her son "Professor," and he has justified his mother's choice of a name by becoming one of the best rifle shots in Maryland. But a Salt Lake woman once created her son a baronet in a still more remarkable manner. She christened him Sir Walter Scott Brown.

The Boston Herald says that President Roosevelt's treatment of General Miles discloses the fatal defect in his make-up—fatal in any man that would be a political leader under a popular form of government. Possibly, but it should be remembered that General Miles is a Massachusetts man, and Bay State people are inclined to regard him as the greatest military hero that this country has produced. The President is quite as popular as the general, and a little more so.

THE END OF THE CONTROVERSY.

Chicago Record-Herald.

Now, let there be an end of the controversy (over the Schley case), let us all join in the cynical view of that ex-naval hero of the paymaster's department and ex-speaker of the House of Representatives, Theodore Roosevelt, who, on being asked his opinion of it, recently drawled: "Well, I can't work up much interest in a conflict between these two heroes. As near as I can analyze it, one of the heroes was not in the fight at all, and the other was trying his best to get out of it."

New York Mail and Express.

No responsible, thinking or patriotic person has accused Schley of cowardice, at Santiago or elsewhere. He never could have got where he was and is if he had been a coward. There are no cowards among the tried men of the American navy. The writer who accused Schley of this stands convicted of being a bad historian and a mischief maker.

St. Paul Pioneer Press.

As the court was composed of veteran admirals of high distinction, whose loyalty and integrity had been impeached, and all accepted by Schley, the secretary of the navy could hardly have done otherwise than approve his findings. Nor could he have done otherwise than disapprove the irrelevant opinion expressed by Dewey on a question not before the court and expressly excluded from its consideration by the concurring opinion of Dewey himself.

Chicago News.

The fact remains that while the procedure has thus been strictly according to precedent and none of the prescribed regulations of official etiquette has been broken, a vast majority of the public is still of the opinion that both Admiral Dewey and Gen. Miles spoke the truth and thought by so doing to protect a fellow officer from injustice. It has been pointed out already that the majority finding of the court of inquiry was taken cognizance of by some very important testimony contributed by officers who were in a position to judge. That fact is fixed in the public mind, and although the action taken by the court is not the official close of the controversy it does little to remove this impression. If the officials do succeed in closing the controversy now it must be admitted that the conclusion of the case is not one that is calculated to secure public confidence in the management of the naval and military affairs of the nation.

The Army and Navy Journal.

The loose talk in the daily papers concerning the motives of Admiral Dewey in finding that the real commander at Santiago was Commodore Schley will have no influence in professional circles. No man is more competent to decide this question than the admiral of the navy, and he had the facts before him on which to make a decision. Henceforth the issue upon the question he has undertaken to decide is that of Admiral Schley and those who impeach his record, but between them and the admiral of the navy, who is quite competent to maintain his position by the citation of the record should the proper occasion for doing so ever offer.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The International Monthly begins the new year with an attractive number. In an interesting paper on "Jury," Associate Justice Brewer, of the Supreme Court, pronounces in favor of retaining the system, because it secures the direct co-operation of the people in the administration of justice, but he condemns without any reserve those features of its present workings which have done so much to destroy public confidence in its efficiency. The rest of the evil he finds in the law requiring unanimity, which, he believes, "threatens the overthrow of the whole system." The foreign contributions to this number are "German Tendencies," by Professor George Simmel, of the University of Berlin. Adolph Furtwangler, the great archaeologist (founder of a school), gives the "New Excavations at Aegina." Conditions of

the Working Woman in England; and "French Impressionism," are subjects of interesting papers.—Burlington Vermont.

The January number of Modern Culture has a paper on "Henry George, the Man and the Reformer," by Dean Charles D. Williams, and seven illustrated articles, of which those on "The Police Dogs of Ghent," by J. B. Whitby, of Brussels; "Winter Navigation on the Lakes," by W. Frank McCune, of Ohio; "The Sun God in China," an account of the newly invented solar motor, by Arthur Inkersley, of California; and "The Charleston Expedition," by Dolly K. Yancy, of Charleston, are of special interest. There is a graceful poem on "Winter," by Hortense Toulson, and one on "Hysanion," author unknown, which is presented as "A Literary Curiosity," by General H. G. Gibson, of Washington. There are also some literary articles and an alleged story of "Maconochie" by H. B. Sterling.—Caxton Building, Cleveland, Ohio.

The leading article of the Forum for January is on "The Military Duty of the Engineering Institutions," by Rear-Admiral G. W. Melville. He recommends that a large reserve of skilled experts be acquired for the military and naval services by placing the government in close touch with the technical schools. Dr. W. De Witt Hyde, president of the Bowdoin college, discusses some of the dangers by which he believes this country will be threatened if it retains the Philippines. "The Chinese in America" is the subject of a paper by an Americanized Chinaman. "The Race's Progress in Tariff Legislation" is the title of an article by Jacob Schoenhof, and Professor Brander Matthews takes up the question whether critics truly are described as "those who have failed in literature and art," a question he answers in the negative.—New York.

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